

their members, that specifies the responsibilities and participation levels of individual members and the MBA. Such IRP or IRPs shall constitute the MBA's IRP where the MBA sub-contracts or acts as an agent but does not assume power supply responsibility. Any member of an MBA may submit an individual IRP to Western in lieu of inclusion in an MBA IRP.

(3) Integrated resource planning cooperatives approved by Western pursuant to paragraph (d) of this section must submit an IRP for its members.

(4) Customers that Western determines to be small customers pursuant to section 905.14 may submit a small customer plan in lieu of an IRP.

(c) Schedules.

(1) Except as provided in paragraph (c)(2) of this section, customers must submit their initial IRP to the appropriate Area Manager no later than 1 year after the effective date of this rule, or after becoming a customer, whichever is later. Approved IRP cooperatives shall be allowed 18 months from Western's approval of the IRP cooperative request to submit an initial IRP.

(2) Every customer must provide written notification to Western if it intends to seek approval for IRP cooperative or small customer status. This notification must be provided by the customer to the Western Area Manager of the Area in which the customer is located by December 19, 1995, or within 30 days from the time it becomes a customer, whichever is later.

(3) If an IRP submittal is found to be insufficient after Western review, a notice of deficiencies will be provided to the entity that submitted the IRP. Western, working together with the customer, will determine the time allowable for resubmitting the IRP. However, the time allowed for resubmittal will not be greater than 9 months after the date of the disapproval, unless otherwise provided by contract language in effect as of the effective date of these regulations.

(4) Updated IRPs must be submitted to the appropriate Area Manager every 5 years after Western's approval of the initial IRP.

(5) Amendments and revisions to IRPs may be submitted at any time.

(d) Western shall respond to IRP cooperative status requests within 30 days of receipt. If a request for IRP cooperative status is disapproved, the requesting customers must submit their initial IRPs no later than 1 year after the date of the letter of disapproval. Any subsequent requests by customers for IRP cooperative status will be responded to by Western within 30 days of receipt of the request. Western's approval of IRP cooperative status will not be based on any potential member's contractual status with Western.

§905.13 Approval criteria.

(a) IRP or small customer plan approval will be based upon:

(1) Whether the IRP or small customer plan satisfactorily addresses the criteria in these regulations; and

(2) The reasonableness of the IRP or small customer plan given the size, type, resource needs, geographic area, and competitive situation of the customer.

(b) Western will review resource choices in accordance with section 114 of EPAct and these regulations. Western will disapprove IRPs if resource choices do not meet the reasonableness test set forth in (a)(2) of this section and the provisions of section 114 of EPAct.

(c) Where a customer or group of customers implements integrated resource planning under a program responding to other Federal, State, or other initiatives, Western shall accept and approve such a plan as long as the IRP substantially complies with the requirements of these regulations.

(d) In evaluating an IRP or small customer plan, Western shall consider water planning, efficiency improvements, and conservation in the same manner it considers energy planning and efficiencies. Customers that provide water utility services and customers that service irrigation load as part of their overall load may include water conservation activities in the IRP. To the extent practical, customers should convert their water savings to energy values.

§905.14 Small customer plan.

(a) Small customers may submit a request to prepare a small customer plan